

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A composition comprising:
 - (a) a peptide complexed with a copper ion; and
 - (b) a basic amino acid.
2. (Original) A composition of claim 1, wherein said peptide is of the formula 1:

R1

[>A1-A2-His-A3-A4-R3]_n : copper (II)

R2

Formula 1

wherein A1 is Gly or absent; A2 is Gly, Lys, Ala, Ser, or Val; A3 is Lys or Gly; A4 is Trp, (Gly)_n-Trp where n is from 1 to 4, Pro-Val-Phe-Val, Val-Phe-Val, or absent; each R1 and R2, independently, is H, C₁₋₁₂ alkyl, C₇₋₁₀ phenylalkyl, or C(=O)E₁, where E₁ is C₁₋₂₀ alkyl, C₃₋₂₀ alkenyl, C₃₋₂₀ alkynyl, phenyl, 3,4-dihydroxyphenylalkyl, naphthyl, or C₇₋₁₀ phenylalkyl; provided that when either R1 or R2 is C(=O)E₁, the other must be H; R3 is OH, NH₂, C₁₋₁₂ alkoxy, C₇₋₁₀ phenylalkoxy, C₁₁₋₂₀ naphthylalkoxy, C₁₋₁₂ alkylamino, C₇₋₁₀ phenylalkylamino, or C₁₁₋₂₀ naphthylalkylamino; and n is 1 or 2.

3. (Original) A composition of claim 1, wherein said composition is an emulsion and further comprises a non-ionic emulsifier and said composition is substantially free of ionic emulsifiers.
4. (Original) A composition of claim 2, wherein said composition is an emulsion and further comprises a non-ionic emulsifier and said composition is substantially free of ionic emulsifiers.
5. (Original) A composition of claim 1, wherein said composition is an emulsion and further comprises an oil soluble anti-oxidant.
6. (Original) A composition of claim 5, wherein said composition is an emulsion and further comprises an oil soluble anti-oxidant.
7. (Original) A composition comprising:
 - (a) a peptide complexed with a copper ion; and
 - (b) a non-ionic emulsifier,wherein said composition is an emulsion and is substantially free of an ionic emulsifier.

8. (Original) A composition of claim 7, wherein said peptide is of the formula 1:

R1

[>A1-A2-His-A3-A4-R3]_n : copper (II)

R2

Formula 1

wherein A1 is Gly or absent; A2 is Gly, Lys, Ala, Ser, or Val; A3 is Lys or Gly; A4 is Trp, (Gly)_n-Trp where n is from 1 to 4, Pro-Val-Phe-Val, Val-Phe-Val, or absent; each R1 and R2, independently, is H, C₁₋₁₂ alkyl, C₇₋₁₀ phenylalkyl, or C(=O)E₁, where E₁ is C₁₋₂₀ alkyl, C₃₋₂₀ alkenyl, C₃₋₂₀ alkynyl, phenyl, 3,4-dihydroxyphenylalkyl, naphthyl, or C₇₋₁₀ phenylalkyl; provided that when either R1 or R2 is C(=O)E₁, the other must be H; R3 is OH, NH₂, C₁₋₁₂ alkoxy, C₇₋₁₀ phenylalkoxy, C₁₁₋₂₀ naphthylalkoxy, C₁₋₁₂ alkylamino, C₇₋₁₀ phenylalkylamino, or C₁₁₋₂₀ naphthylalkylamino; and n is 1 or 2.

9. (Original) A composition of claim 7, wherein said composition is an emulsion and further comprises an oil soluble anti-oxidant.

10. (Original) A composition of claim 8, wherein said composition is an emulsion and further comprises an oil soluble anti-oxidant.

11. (Original) A composition of claim 1, wherein said composition has a pH from about 6 to about 8.

12. (Original) A composition of claim 2, wherein said composition has a pH from about 6 to about 8.

13. (Original) A composition of claim 4, wherein said composition has a pH from about 6 to about 8.

14. (Original) A composition of claim 6, wherein said composition has a pH from about 6 to about 8.

15. (Original) A composition of claim 7, wherein said composition has a pH from about 6 to about 8.

16. (Original) A composition of claim 8, wherein said composition has a pH from about 6 to about 8.

17. (Original) A composition of claim 10, wherein said composition has a pH from about 6 to about 8.

18. (Currently Amended) A composition of claim 1, wherein said peptide is [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-OH]_n:copper(II) or [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-NH₂]_n:copper(II) and said basic amino acid is ~~argenine~~arginine, histidine, or lysine.

19. (Currently Amended) A composition of claim 4, wherein said peptide is [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-OH]_n:copper(II) or [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-NH₂]_n:copper(II) and said basic amino acid is ~~argenine~~arginine, histidine, or lysine.

20. (Currently Amended) A composition of claim 6, wherein said peptide is [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-OH]_n:copper(II) or [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-NH₂]_n:copper(II) and said basic amino acid is ~~argenine~~arginine, histidine, or lysine.

21. (Currently Amended) A composition of claim 14, wherein said peptide is [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-OH]_n:copper(II) or [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-NH₂]_n:copper(II) and said basic amino acid is ~~argenine~~arginine, histidine, or lysine.

22. (Original) A composition of claim 7, wherein said peptide is [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-OH]_n:copper(II) or [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-NH₂]_n:copper(II).

23. (Original) A composition of claim 10, wherein said peptide is [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-OH]_n:copper(II) or [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-NH₂]_n:copper(II).

24. (Original) A composition of claim 17, wherein said peptide is [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-OH]_n:copper(II) or [H₂-Gly-L-His-L-Lys-NH₂]_n:copper(II).

25. (Original) A composition of claim 1, wherein said composition further comprises a gelling agent.

26. (Original) A composition of claim 7, wherein said composition further comprises a gelling agent.

27. (New) A composition formed by adding an amino acid to an aqueous solution of a peptide copper complex, with the proviso that the amino acid is not histidine.

28. (New) The composition of claim 27 wherein the molar ratio of the peptide copper complex to the amino acid is about 1:1.

29. (New) The composition of claim 27 wherein the solution comprises a preservative.

30. (New) The composition of claim 29 wherein the solution further comprises propylene glycol.

31. (New) The composition of claim 27 wherein the peptide copper complex is glycyl-L-histidyl-L-lysine:copper(II).

32. (New) The composition of claim 27 wherein the peptide copper complex is L-alanyl-L-histidyl-L-lysine:copper(II).

33. (New) The composition of claim 27 wherein the amino acid is lysine, arginine or a mixture thereof.

34. (New) The composition of claim 27 wherein the amino acid is lysine.

35. (New) The composition of claim 27 wherein the amino acid is arginine.

36. (New) A medical device comprising the composition of claim 27.

37. (New) A composition comprising at least one amino acid and an aqueous solution of at least one peptide copper complex, with the proviso that the at least one amino acid is not histidine.

38. (New) The composition of claim 37 wherein the peptide copper complex is glycyl-L-histidyl-L-lysine:copper(II).

39. (New) The composition of claim 37 wherein the peptide copper complex is L-alanyl-L-histidyl-L-lysine:copper(II).

40. (New) The composition of claim 37 wherein the amino acid is lysine, arginine or a mixture thereof.

41. (New) The composition of claim 37 wherein the amino acid is lysine.

42. (New) The composition of claim 37 wherein the amino acid is arginine.

43. (New) A medical device comprising the composition of claim 37.

44. (New) A method for enhancing the chemical stability of an aqueous solution of a peptide copper complex comprising the step of adding an amino acid to the solution.

45. (New) The method of claim 44 wherein the amino acid is lysine, arginine or a mixture thereof, and the molar ratio of the peptide copper complex to the amino acid is at least about 1:1.